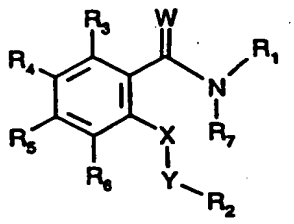
What is claimed is:

1. Use of a compound of formula I,



(I)

wherein

W is O or S;

X is NR_8;

Y is CR_9R_{10}-$(CH_2)_n$ wherein

R_9 and R_{10} are independently of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl, and

n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or

Y is SO_2;

R_1 is aryl;

R_2 is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that R_2 cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of Y = SO_2 cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;

any of R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and

R_7 and R_8, independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl;

or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the preparation of a pharmaceutical product for the treatment of a neoplastic disease which responds to an inhibition of the VEGF receptor tyrosine kinase activity.

2. Use of a compound of formula I, wherein the radicals and symbols have the meanings as defined in claim 1, or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the preparation of a pharmaceutical product for the treatment of retinopathy or age-related macula degeneration.

3. A method for the treatment of a neoplastic disease which responds to an inhibition of the VEGF-receptor tyrosine kinase activity, which comprises administering a compound of formula I or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the radicals and symbols have the meanings as defined in claim 1, in a quantity effective against the said disease, to a warm-blooded animal requiring such treatment.

4. A method for the treatment of retinopathy or age-related macular degeneration, which comprises administering a compound of formula I or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the radicals and symbols have the meanings as defined in claim 1, in a quantity effective against said diseases, to a warm-blooded animal requiring such treatment.

5. A compound of formula I,
wherein
W is O or S;
X is NR_8;
Y is CR_9R_{10}-$(CH_2)_n$ wherein
R_9 and R_{10} are independently of each other hydrogen or lower alkyl, and
n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or
Y is SO_2;
R_1 is aryl;
R_2 is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that R_2 cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of Y = SO_2 cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;
any of R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and
R_7 and R_8, independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl;
with the exception of the compound of formula I wherein W is O, X is NR_8, Y is CH_2, R_1 is 4-chlorophenyl, R_2 is 2-pyridyl, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_7 and R_8 are each H and R_6 is chloro;
or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. A compound of formula I according to claim 5,
wherein

W is O or S;

X is NR_8;

Y is CHR_9-$(CH_2)_n$ wherein

R_9 is hydrogen or lower alkyl, and

n is an integer of from and including 0 to and including 3; or

Y is SO_2;

R_1 is aryl;

R_2 is a mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group comprising one or more ring nitrogen atoms with the exception that R_2 cannot represent 2-phthalimidyl, and in case of Y = SO_2 cannot represent 2,1,3-benzothiadiazol-4-yl;

any of R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, is H or a substituent other than hydrogen; and

R_7 and R_8, independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl;

with the exception of the compound of formula I wherein W is O, X is NR_8, Y is CH_2, R_1 is 4-chlorophenyl, R_2 is 2-pyridyl, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_7 and R_8 are each H and R_6 is chloro;

or a salt thereof.

7. A compound of formula I according to claim 5,

wherein

W is O or S;

X is NR_8;

Y is CHR_9-$(CH_2)_n$ wherein

R_9 is H or lower alkyl, and

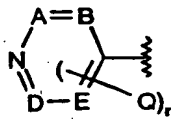
n is 0 to 3; or

Y is SO_2;

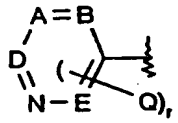
R_1 is phenyl that is unsubsituted or substituted by up to three substituents selected from amino, mono- or disubstituted amino wherein the substituents are selected independently from lower alkyl, hydroxy-lower alkyl, phenyl-lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl, benzoyl and substituted benzoyl wherein the phenyl radical is substituted by one or two substituents selected from nitro, amino, halogen, N-lower alkylamino, N,N-di-lower alkylamino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy, lower-alkoxycarbonyl, lower alkanoyl and carbamoyl, and phenyl-lower alkoxycarbonyl wherein the phenyl radical radical is substituted by one or two substituents selected from nitro, amino, halogen, N-lower alkylamino, N,N-di-lower alkylamino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy, lower-alkoxycarbonyl, lower alkanoyl and

carbamoyl; lower alkyl; substituted lower alkyl where up to three substituents are present independently selected from the group containing halogen, N-lower alkylamino, N,N-di-lower alkylamino, N-lower alkanoylamino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy, lower alkoxycarbonyl and phenyl-lower alkoxycarbonyl; hydroxy, lower alkoxy; phenyl-lower alkoxy; phenyloxy; halogen-lower alkoxy, lower alkanoyloxy; benzoyloxy; lower alkoxycarbonyloxy; phenyl-lower alkoxycarbonyloxy; nitro; cyano; carboxy; lower alkoxycarbonyl; phenyl-lower alkoxycarbonyl; phenyloxycarbonyl; lower alkylcarbonyl; carbamoyl; N-mono- or N,N-disubstituted carbamoyl that is substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from lower alkyl, phenyl-lower alkyl and hydroxy-lower alkyl, at the terminal nitrogen atom; amidino; guanidino; mercapto; sulfo; lower alkylthio; phenylthio; phenyl-lower alkylthio; lower alkylphenylthio; lower alkylsulfinyl; phenylsulfinyl; phenyl-lower alkylsulfinyl; lower alkylphenylsulfinyl; lower alkanesulfonyl; phenylsulfonyl; phenyl-lower alkylsulfonyl; lower alkylphenylsulfonyl; lower alkenyl; lower alkanoyl; halogen-lower alkylmercapto; halogen-lower alkylsulfonyl; dihydroxybora (-$B(OH)_2$); and lower alkylene dioxy bound at adjacent C-atoms of the ring;

R_2 is imidazolyl, quinolyl, naphthyridinyl, or a moiety of the formula Ib or Ic



(Ib)



(Ic)

wherein

r is 0 to 2;

A, B, D, and E are, independently of one another, N or CH, with the stipulation that not more than 2 of these radicals are N; preferably; and

Q is lower alkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, lower thioalkyl or halogen;

any of R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, is H, fluorine or lower alkyl; and

R_7 and R_8, independently of each other, are H or lower alkyl;

or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. A compound of formula I according to claim 5, wherein

W is O;

X is NR_8;

Y is CHR_9-$(CH_2)_n$ wherein
R_9 is H or methyl, and
n is 0;
or Y is SO_2;
R_1 is phenyl, naphthyl or 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthyl which is in each case either unsubstituted or independently substituted by one or two substituents selected from the group comprising halogen; lower alkyl; lower alkoxy; hydroxy; phenyl; phenoxy; halogen-lower alkoxy; halogen-lower alkyl; lower alkoxycarbonyl; N-lower alkyl carbamoyl; lower alkylsulfinyl; lower alkanesulfonyl; and lower alkoxycarbonyl lower alkyl;
R_2 is imidazolyl, quinolyl, naphthyridinyl, 2-methyl-pyridin-4-yl, 3-pyridyl or 4-pyridyl;
any of R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, are H, methyl or chloro; or
R_3 and R_4 together represent methylene dioxy and R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, are H, methyl or chloro; and
R_7 and R_8, independently of each other, are H, fluorine or methyl;
or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. A compound of formula I according to claim 5, wherein
W is O;
X is NR_8;
Y is CHR_9-$(CH_2)_n$ wherein
R_9 is H or methyl, and
n is 0;
or Y is SO_2;
R_1 is phenyl which is either unsubstituted or independently substituted by one or two substituents selected from the group comprising halogen; lower alkyl; halogen-lower alkyl; lower alkylsulfinyl; and lower alkanesulfonyl;
R_2 is imidazolyl, quinolyl, naphthyridinyl, 2-methyl-pyridin-4-yl, 3-pyridyl or 4-pyridyl;
any of R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, is H or methyl; and
R_7 and R_8, independently of each other, are H or methyl;
or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. A compound of formula I according to claim 5, wherein
W is O;

X is NR_8;

Y is CHR_9-$(CH_2)_n$ wherein

R_9 is H or methyl, and

n is 0;

or Y is SO_2;

R_1 is phenyl which is either unsubstituted or independently substituted by one or two substituents selected from the group comprising halogen; lower alkyl; halogen-lower alkyl; lower alkylsulfinyl; and lower alkanesulfonyl;

R_2 is imidazolyl, quinolyl, 2-methyl-pyridin-4-yl or 4-pyridyl;

any of R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, is H or methyl; and

R_7 and R_8, independently of each other, are H or methyl;

or a salt thereof.

11. A compound of formula I according to claim 5, wherein

W is O;

X is NR_8;

Y is CH_2;

R_1 is phenyl, naphthyl or 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthyl which is in each case either unsubstituted or independently substituted by one or two substituents selected from the group comprising halogen; lower alkyl; lower alkoxy; hydroxy; phenyl; phenoxy; halogen-lower alkoxy; lower alkoxycarbonyl; N-lower alkyl carbamoyl; and lower alkoxycarbonyl lower alkyl;

R_2 is 4-pyridyl;

any of R_3, R_4, R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, are H, methyl or chloro; or

R_3 and R_4 together represent methylene dioxy and R_5 and R_6, independently of the other, are H, methyl or chloro; and

R_7 and R_8 are H;

or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. A compound of formula I according to claim 5 selected from

2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-N-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)benzamide;

2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-N-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;

2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-N-(4-methylphenyl)benzamide;

2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-N-(3-fluoro-4-methylphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-N-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethylphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-N-(3-chloro-5-trifluoromethylphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-N-(4-methylphenyl)-6-methylbenzamide; and
2-[(4-quinolyl)methyl]amino-N-(4-chloromethylphenyl)benzamide;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. A compound of formula I according to claim 5 selected from
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-fluoro-(4-trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-phenylbenzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[4-fluoro-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-fluoro-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3,5-(bistrifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-N-[3,4-bis-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-methoxy-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(3-cyanophenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[(3-methylthio)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(3-acetylaminophenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-[(aminocarbonyl)amino]phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(dimethylamino)phenyl]benzamide;
5-methoxy-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
3-methyl-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
4,5-difluoro-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N'*-methyl-*N'*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[(3-methylsulphonyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[(3-methylsulphinylphenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(3-bromophenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(3-methylphenyl)benzamide;

2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(3-benzoylphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(aminocarbonyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(3-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-quinolinyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(5-quinolinyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-(2-methyl)pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxo)pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-benzamide;
2-[(4-quinolinyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
2-[(2-imidazolyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
2-[2-(4-pyridyl)ethyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[2-(3-pyridyl)ethyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[1-methyl-2-(3-pyridyl)ethyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(1-oxido-4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide; and
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]methylamino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]benzamide;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. A compound of formula I according to claim 5 selected from
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chloronaphthyl)benzamide;
6-methyl-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
6-chloro-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
3,4-methylendioxy-6-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
4,5-dimethyl-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
5-chloro-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-n-propylphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-n-propylphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(7-hydroxynaphthyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(8-hydroxy-2-naphthyl)benzamide;
4-chloro-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
5-methyl-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-biphenyl)benzamide;
5-chloro-2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(naphthyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(2-napthyl)benzamide;

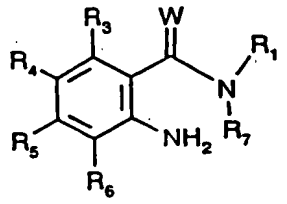
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-methoxy-2-naphthyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(3-bromo-2-naphthyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[4-(isopropoxycarbonyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[4-(isopropylcarbamoyl)phenyl]benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(2-methylphenyl)benzamide;
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-[3-(methoxycarbonylmethyl)phenyl]benzamide; and
2-[(4-pyridyl)methyl]amino-*N*-(4-phenoxyphenyl)benzamide;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. A compound of formula I according to any one of claims 5 to 14, or a N-oxide thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such a compound, for use in a method for the treatment of the human or animal body.

16. A pharmaceutical preparation, comprising a compound of formula I according to any one of claims 5 to 14, or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a hydrate or solvate thereof, and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

17. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I according to claim 5, or a N-oxide or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, characterized in that

a) for the synthesis of a compound of the formula I wherein X represents NR_8, where R_8 is hydrogen and Y represents CHR_9-$(CH_2)_n$, each as indicated for a compound of formula I, and the remaining symbols W, R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6 and R_7 are as defined for a compound of the formula I, an aniline derivative of the formula II



(II)

wherein W, R_1, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6 and R_7 are as defined for a compound of the formula I, is reacted with a carbonyl compound of the formula III

$$R_2\text{-}(CH_2)_n\text{-}\ C(R_9)=O \qquad \text{(III)}$$

wherein n, R_2 and R_9 are as defined for a compound of the formula I in the presence of a reducing agent; or

b) for the synthesis of a compound of the formula I wherein X is SO_2 and the remaining symbols R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6, R_7, W and X are as defined for a compound of the formula I, an aniline derivative of the formula II as defined under process variante a) is reacted with an acid of the formula IVa

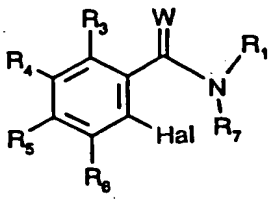
$$R_2\text{-}Y\text{-}OH \qquad \text{(IVa)}$$

or a reactive derivative thereof; or with a compound of formula IVb,

$$R_2\text{-}Y\text{-}Hal' \qquad \text{(IVb)}$$

wherein Hal' is chloro, bromo or iodo; or

c) for the synthesis of compounds of the formula I wherein X represents NR_8, Y represents $CR_9R_{10}\text{-}(CH_2)_n$ and the remaining symbols R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6, R_7 and R_8 are as defined for a compound of the formula I, a halogen derivative of the formula V



(V)

wherein Hal represents iodine, bromine or chlorine and W, R_1, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6 and R_7 are as defined for a compound of the formula I, is reacted with am amine of the formula VI

$$R_2\text{-}(CH_2)_n\text{-}\ C(R_9)(R_{10})\text{-}NHR_8 \qquad \text{(VI)}$$

wherein n, R_2, R_8, R_9 and R_{10} are as defined for a compound of the formula I in the presence of an appropriate catalyst in an inert solvent in the presence of an aprotic base;

where the starting compounds defined in a), b) or c) may also be present with functional groups in protected form if necessary and/or in the form of salts, provided a salt-forming group is present and the reaction in salt form is possible;

any protecting groups in a protected derivative of a compound of the formula I are removed; and, if so desired, an obtainable compound of formula I is converted into another compound of formula I or a N-oxide thereof, a free compound of formula I is converted into a salt, an obtainable salt of a compound of formula I is converted into the free compound or another salt, and/or a mixture of isomeric compounds of formula I is separated into the individual isomers.